

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A system for delivering a staple to a locus of an artery, comprising
 - a. a delivery conduit for insertion into the lumen of an artery through which conduit a staple can be delivered to the locus, and
 - b. means for transforming axial advancement of the delivery conduit through the artery into movement of the distal end of the delivery conduit away from the longitudinal axis of the artery and towards the artery wall, wherein the means for transforming includes:
 - (1) an elongate element for inserting into said artery, wherein the elongated element:
 - i. extends alongside the delivery conduit, and
 - ii. is stiffer than at least the distal end of the delivery conduit;
 - (2) means for coupling the elongate element and the delivery conduit in situ.
2. (CANCELED)
3. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A system as claimed in claim 2, wherein the elongate element is:
 - a. a guide wire or
 - b. a catheter threaded on a guide wire.
- 4-5. (CANCELED)
6. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A system as claimed in claim 2, wherein the means for coupling comprises a tie for tying the elongate element and the delivery conduit together.

7. **(ORIGINAL)** A system as claimed in claim 6, wherein the tie is in the form of a figure-of-eight lashing.
8. **(PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)** A system as claimed in claim 6, wherein the elongate element has apertures therein through which the tie is threaded.
9. **(PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)** A system as claimed in claim 6, wherein the tie is attached to the delivery conduit and/or the elongate element by at least one of:
 - a. adhesive,
 - b. a crimp, and
 - c. a heat-shrink sleeve.
10. **(PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)** A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the delivery conduit has an inner conduit through which a staple may be advanced to deliver it to the locus.
11. **(PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)** A system as claimed in claim 2, additionally comprising means for immobilising the elongate element in the lumen of the artery.
12. **(ORIGINAL)** A system as claimed in claim 11, wherein the means for immobilising comprises an inflatable balloon.
13. **(ORIGINAL)** A system as claimed in claim 12, wherein the elongate element is a catheter for the inflatable balloon mounted on a guide wire.
14. **(PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)** A system as claimed in claim 12, wherein the balloon is arranged so that, in use, inflation of the balloon assists movement of the distal end of the delivery conduit away from the longitudinal axis of the artery and towards the artery wall.

15. **(PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)** A system as claimed in claim 12, wherein the balloon is adapted so that, when inflated in situ, it does not fully occlude the lumen of the artery, but rather allows blood to flow past the balloon.
16. **(PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)** A system as claimed in claim 1, additionally comprising a sheath in which the other components of the system can be stored.
- 17-20. **(CANCELED)**
21. **(CURRENTLY AMENDED)** A system for delivering a staple to a locus of an artery comprising
- a. a delivery conduit insertable within the lumen of an artery, through which delivery conduit a staple can be delivered to the locus, wherein the delivery conduit has a distal end flexibly connected to a proximal section of the delivery conduit, whereby the distal end of the delivery conduit may be oriented at an angle with respect to the proximal section of the delivery conduit;
 - b. an elongated insertion element insertable within the lumen of an artery alongside the delivery conduit, the elongate insertion element being:
 - (1) stiffer than at least the distal end of the delivery conduit, and
 - (2) having an insertion element joinder location pivotally coupled to the delivery conduit at or adjacent its distal end at a delivery conduit joinder location at or adjacent the distal end of the delivery conduit, the pivotal coupling fixing the insertion element joinder location and the delivery conduit joinder location at an at least substantially constant distance between each other.
- whereby advancing the proximal section of the delivery conduit toward the distal end of the delivery conduit causes bending of the delivery conduit such that the angle of the distal end of the delivery conduit changes.

22. (NEW) The system of claim 21 wherein the insertion element joiner location and the delivery conduit joiner location are pivotally coupled by a flexible tether extending therebetween, the flexible tether extending about and/or into one or both of the insertion element and the delivery conduit.
23. (NEW) A system for delivering a staple to a locus of an artery, the system including:
- a. a delivery conduit insertable within the lumen of an artery, wherein the delivery conduit includes:
 - (1) a proximal delivery conduit section,
 - (2) a distal delivery conduit section terminating in a distal delivery conduit end, the distal delivery conduit section being flexibly joined to the proximal delivery conduit such that the distal delivery conduit end may be oriented at an angle with respect to the proximal delivery conduit section,
 - (3) an outer delivery conduit surface extending along the proximal and distal delivery conduit sections, and
 - (4) an inner passage through which a staple can be delivered to the locus;
 - b. an elongated insertion element:
 - (1) being stiffer than at least the distal end of the delivery conduit,
 - (2) having an outer insertion element surface extending alongside the outer delivery conduit surface and being joined thereto at a joiner location at or adjacent the distal end of the delivery conduit, with the outer insertion element surface and the outer delivery conduit surface being pivotally fixed together at the joiner location,
- whereby advancing the proximal section of the delivery conduit toward the distal end of the delivery conduit causes bending of the delivery conduit such that the angle of the distal end of the delivery conduit changes.

24. (NEW) The system of claim 23 further including a flexible tether joining the outer insertion element surface and the outer delivery conduit surface at the joiner location.
25. (NEW) The system of claim 24 wherein the flexible tether extends about and/or into one or both of the insertion element and the delivery conduit.
26. (NEW) The system of claim 23 wherein the elongated insertion element is joined to the delivery conduit at or adjacent the distal end of the delivery conduit such that a distal end of the elongated insertion element extends beyond the distal end of the distal end of the delivery conduit.